

year. They need Congress to act immediately to ensure funding.

I urge my colleagues to show our compassion for America's children, to demonstrate that we will not tolerate the scourge of uninsurance. I urge you to vote to extend funding for SCHIP.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2007*

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I would like to submit to the record that my vote on H. Res. 228, Recognizing the 186th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating Greek and American Democracy, was not recorded yesterday. May the record show that I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 228.

#### EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF THE HOUSE FOR THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT

SPEECH OF

### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 13, 2007*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 222, the Good Friday Agreement for Northern Ireland.

The United States stands committed to a peaceful resolution of the conflict which has plagued Northern Ireland for the past quarter century. The last twelve months have indeed seen historic developments which have raised hopes that at long last the parties to the conflict in Northern Ireland are working together to forge reconciliation.

Today, I strongly support H. Res. 222, to show strong support for the 1998 Good Friday Agreement as the blueprint for a lasting peace in Northern Ireland. The measure continues to support the St. Andrews Agreement of October 2006 and commends British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern for their leadership and persistence in seeking a peaceful resolution in Northern Ireland.

Mr. Speaker, we must continue to advocate for the achievement of peace, justice, human rights and political stability in Northern Ireland. That is why I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 222.

#### RECOGNIZING A TRADITION OF LEADERSHIP IN THE GUAM COMMUNITY

### HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2007*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the late Jesus S. Leon Guerrero's legacy of leadership that was carried on with distinction by his son, the late Anthony A. Leon Guerrero, and that now continues with his daughter, Ms. Lourdes A. Leon

Guerrero, who follows her father and her brother as President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of the Board of the Bank of Guam. Ms. Leon Guerrero has served in this capacity since March 31, 2006, and though her service at the helm of the Bank of Guam has been brief, she carries forward the visionary and dedicated leadership and work ethic which have been the hallmarks of the Bank of Guam since its establishment 35 years ago. These hallmarks have consistently characterized the leaders and the employees of the Bank of Guam since its chartering on March 13, 1972 and have given rise to the Bank's reputation as one of the leading and most successful financial institutions in the Pacific. Last year, the Bank was named by the Guam Chamber of Commerce as Business Laureate of the Year and was enrolled into the Guam Business Hall of Fame. Today, the leadership of the late Mr. Jesus S. Leon Guerrero and the Bank of Guam's service to our community continues to be celebrated and recognized by the people of Guam.

After working for the Bank of America for many years, Jesus struck out on his own in 1972 to charter a new and locally-organized bank for our island community—an endeavor that seemed nearly impossible at the time. But Jesus never gave up and his confidence in the future of Guam and in the people of our island never wavered. It was his vision, his drive, and his confidence that led to the chartering of a community bank for the people of Guam.

Upon Jesus's death in 2002, his son Anthony took the reins of leadership at the Bank of Guam. During that same year, Guam was hit by Typhoon Chata'an in July, a powerful earthquake in October, and Supertyphoon Pongsona in December. Still grieving, Anthony rose to the occasion and proved himself a worthy successor of his father. Anthony met and conquered every challenge except one: he lost his battle against cancer in 2004. Jesus's daughter Lourdes was called to assume the mantle of leadership of the Bank. A leader in her own right, as a Senator in the Guam Legislature for several terms, Lourdes did not hesitate and the transfer of the Bank's leadership was seamless and unfaltering.

The Bank of Guam has grown over the past 35 years in meeting the banking, financing, and insurance needs of the people of Guam and the greater Micronesia region. Today, the Bank of Guam, a publicly-traded company, has a presence on nearly every island in the region and in San Francisco, California. Such is the legacy of Jesus S. and Anthony A. Leon Guerrero and the challenge for Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, the officers and employees of the Bank of Guam. We are confident that the leadership and the employees of the Bank of Guam will continue to meet these challenges.

#### TRIBUTE TO NEGRO BASEBALL LEAGUE

### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2007*

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my profound respect and admiration to all the members of the Negro Baseball League. These athletes contributed greatly to the sport of baseball and to

our nation. African American baseball players were an important part of breaking down barriers, reducing prejudice, and moving the country towards integration, fairness, and equality. And because of their talent and determination, Major League Baseball finally integrated in 1959, 40 years after the formation of the Negro Baseball League.

While the 4th District was never home to an official Negro baseball team designated by the Negro League, which began in 1920, it was home to the St. Paul Gophers. The team was formed in 1907, long before the official Negro League was created, and with the likes of Bobby Marshall, a stand-out at the University of Minnesota in three sports, they went on to win the unofficial championship in 1909 against the Chicago Leland Giants. Minnesota was also home to Minneapolis Keystones, an all-black men's team that also played in the early 1900's and, in 1944, the Minneapolis Millerettes, a member of All-American Girls Baseball League. Even though these teams played for only a short time, they remain an important part of the history of our state and a testament to the value of inclusion in our communities.

I am proud to support for H. Res. 162 and to recognize the enormous achievements by African American athletes throughout our Nation's history.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY THE NURSING PROFESSION

### HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 14, 2007*

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I call attention to the important and essential role that nurses play in providing quality health care across our Nation. Nurses are the health professionals involved on the front lines of caring for Americans. Our Nation's health care system is complex and every day people with all types of needs are served by legions of caring, qualified and professional nurses. They are integral to our Nation's health care delivery system.

I believe every person can remember an experience when someone they loved needed health care and a nurse was the first person by their side providing care and comfort. We all know someone who works in the field of nursing and the commitment they make to their profession, despite extraordinary challenges everyday.

The Nurse in Washington Internship program has brought more than 100 representatives of this noble field to our Nation's Capitol this week to give voice to their needs and experience. They see more of our constituents and care for more of our children then we will ever meet and we should listen and respect their views.

An adequate supply of nurses is essential to ensuring that all people receive quality care and that our Nation's public health infrastructure has the professionals necessary to respond to natural and manmade disasters. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) projects that today's 10 percent vacancy rate in registered nurses will grow to 36 percent by 2020, representing more than one million unfilled jobs.